

**From:** [Eoc, Epahq](#)  
**To:** [Eoc, Epahq](#)  
**Subject:** EOC Daily Management Report for September 1, 2017  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2017 9:40:57 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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## **EOC Daily Emergency Management Report**

**Date:** 9/1/2017  
**Time:** 10:30 ET  
**Report Number:** 169-17

### **Alerts & Warnings**

**FEMA National Watch Center:** Watch/Steady State

**FEMA National Response Coordination Center:** Activated at Level 1

**National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS):** Heightened Awareness Bulletin Issued

**Continuity of Operations (COOP):** COGCON Level 4

**EPA HQ EOC:** Activated on 8/28 at Level 1

**EPA Region 6 REOC:** Activated

**EPA National IMAT:** The National Incident Management Assistance Team (N-IMAT) arrived in Dallas, TX on August 29. On Alert for Hurricane Harvey; Region 3, 4 & 5 Backup Regional Grouping available for deployment from 8/13 – 9/9.

**ASPECT** (OEM's Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology) systems are fully operational and located in Addison, TX from August 28 - September 4, 2017. On August 30, ASPECT was deployed to assess the conditions at the Arkema chemical facility in Crosby, TX and deployed to the area again on August 31 to collect chemical information.

**CMAD** (OEM/Consequence Management Advisory Division) **Lab Assets:** All CMAD biological and chemical fixed laboratory assets and PHILIS vehicles and mobile chemical lab assets, are operational and ready for response activities at their respective lab and warehouse locations in Edison, NJ, Lakewood, CO and Castle Rock, CO. Colorado PHILIS mobile units are being deployed to Corpus Christi.

**ERT** (OSRTI/Environmental Response Team) assets available for deployment include: ERT TAGAs (Edison, Las Vegas & RTP); Mobile Command Post (Erlanger & Las Vegas); HazMat truck (Erlanger & Las Vegas); and ERT-Edison Mobile Analytical Lab. An EPA Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) vehicle is deployed to Corpus Christi.

### **Significant National Weather**

**Severe Weather:** There is a Slight Risk of severe thunderstorms over a portions of the

Carolinas and southeast Kentucky into northeast Tennessee. There is a Marginal Risk of severe thunderstorms from the southern Appalachians into Georgia and the Carolinas and from eastern North Dakota into northwest Minnesota.

**Tornado Weather:** There is a 5-percent chance of tornado activity today portions of the Carolinas and southeast Kentucky into northeast Tennessee. There is a 2-percent chance of tornado activity southern Appalachians into Georgia and the Carolinas.

**Fire Weather:** There is no Critical Fire Weather forecast for today. There is Elevated Fire Weather forecast for Montana, far southwest North Dakota, western South Dakota, northern Nebraska and northwest Wyoming.

**Significant River Flooding:** Flooding occurring or imminent, for parts of the Texas Gulf Coast, inland areas of southeastern Texas, and southeastern Louisiana. Flooding is possible for the central Mississippi Valley.

**Tropical Weather:** The remnants of Harvey will track northeast across the Tennessee and Ohio Valley over the next couple of days. Heavy rainfall will expand northward with 10 inches expected across western TN and KY. The heavy rainfall will lead to locally significant flooding, but widespread or long lasting impacts are not expected. In addition to the threat for heavy rainfall, isolated tornadoes will also be possible. Rivers and bayous in southeast TX, particularly in the Beaumont and Port Arthur regions will likely remain in major to record flooding through next week with several crests not being reached until this weekend. Flooding will continue across much of the middle and upper TX coast into southwest LA for several weeks.

See *Report of Incident Notifications* for details on EPA actions.

**Earthquake Activity:** The U.S. Geological Survey reported that a magnitude 5.5 earthquake occurred on August 31 at 1:46 p.m. EDT, approximately 13 miles to the southeast of Kaguyak, Alaska at a depth of 38 miles. The USGS issued a Green PAGER Alert, indicating a low likelihood of damage and casualties. No tsunami was generated from this event.

### **Report of Incident Notifications**

#### **Region 6, Arkema Chemical Facility Explosion, Crosby, Texas**

On August 31 two loud popping sounds were reported at the Arkema Chemical Facility. One of the refrigerated trailers containing peroxide caught fire. Officials report that it is impossible to know for sure whether an explosion occurred since employees were not on site, but warn that the threat of additional fires or explosions remains. The facility's coolant system for the organic peroxide tanks and backup generators failed due to flooding from Tropical Storm Harvey. An evacuation order is still in effect for residents within a 1.5 mile-radius of the facility. As of August 31, three additional peroxide trailers are close to critical temperature. Those three trailers are reportedly within thirty feet of each other. Arkema is a Risk Management Plan (RMP) facility. It manufactures liquid organic peroxides and two substances, sulfur dioxide (anhydrous) and 2-methylpropene are present at, or above, the minimum threshold quantity for RMP applicability. EPA has deployed an On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) to the scene. EPA emergency response personnel in Texas are in direct contact with first responders in Harris County and are providing federal assistance and resources. EPA Region 6 is working with the FEMA Interagency Modeling Atmospheric Assessment Center (IMAAC) on modeling of anticipated future releases at the site. The

modeling products are being delivered to Unified Command. EPA ASPECT aircraft was deployed to the area on August 30 and 31 and made multiple overflights of the Arkema facility. ASPECT's preliminary screening data showed no significant chemical detections above background. EPA is also sending additional air monitoring personnel and equipment to augment the current effort of the state and local first responders.

#### **Region 6, Tropical Storm Harvey, Texas, Louisiana**

The Region 6 Emergency Operations Center is currently activated and is working under a limited FEMA Disaster Declaration Mission Assignment (MA). In addition, EPA has received an MA to assist the State of Texas with drinking water, wastewater and hazmat recovery operations. Region 6 deployed two On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) on 8/25 in support of the State through this Emergency Support Function (ESF). One OSC deployed to the FEMA Regional Response Coordination Center in Denton, Texas and the second OSC to the State of Texas Operations Center in Austin, Texas. Four N-IMAT members mobilized to Corpus Christi on 8/29 to form a unified command with TCEQ, the Texas General Land Office (GLO), and the US Coast Guard. On August 31, EPA deployed four teams made up of On Scene Coordinators and contractors to Houston to coordinate with TCEQ, TGLO, and US Coast Guard and begin responding to releases and spills at facilities. The teams will conduct rapid needs assessments, oil assessments, and hazards evaluations and are scheduled to begin sampling the flood water on September 2. All agencies are limited in their ability to conduct assessments due to the flood waters that continue to rise. Flood waters are predicted to crest over the weekend and response partners plan to initiate Rapid Needs and Shoreline assessments next week.

#### **Exercises/Predeployments**

No exercises to report at this time.

#### **Regional Daily Ops Status Report**

There were 18 response.epa.gov websites created and/or updated during this reporting period: 8/31/2017 – 9/1/2017.

Reported activities primarily represent NRC notifications with some State-level and other notifications to Regional Phone Duty Officers.

#### **Reported Activities (8/31/2017 - 9/1/2017)**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Oil</b>	<b>Hazmat</b>	<b>Radiation</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Region 1</b>	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Region 2</b>	2	2	0	1	<b>5</b>
<b>Region 3</b>	1	1	0	2	<b>4</b>
<b>Region 4</b>	4	2	0	3	<b>9</b>
<b>Region 5</b>	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Region 6</b>	24	9	0	1	<b>34</b>
<b>Region 7</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Region 8</b>	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Region 9</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Region 10</b>	5	1	0	2	<b>8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>65</b>

Note: There were 3 unclassified events in the Hotline Log.

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